

Tito's condition remains very grave

LIJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, March 19 (AP) — President Josip Broz Tito's doctors said today the 87-year-old marshal remained in very grave condition despite improvement in internal bleeding. "As a result of measures undertaken," the eight-doctor medical council said, "bleeding in his stomach was less marked today than yesterday... but the bleeding still persists." In the federal capital of Belgrade, more than 500 kilometres away, the collective state leadership which would succeed President Tito to discuss unspecified constitutional matters. The eight members of the collective presidency met under the chairmanship of Mr. Obazar Kolisevski, the 66-year-old Macedonian who would become head of state if Tito died. The national news agency said the collective presidency reviewed matters including "questions of constitutional jurisdiction of the president." Other issues included foreign affairs and the naming of new heads of Yugoslav diplomatic missions abroad.

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EEC urges Israel to establish peaceful ties with its neighbours

BRUSSELS, March 19 (Agencies)—Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet said today the nine countries of the European Economic Community (EEC) wanted Israel to realise that its security and prosperity depended on peaceful relations with its neighbours.

Speaking to the Belgian parliament's foreign affairs committee, Mr. Simonet said the nine could not promote peace without American, Arab and Israeli cooperation, but they might be able to prevent the momentum towards a settlement slowing down dangerously.

In an apparent reference to "hard-line" Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which he did not mention by name, he suggested that the EEC show certain parties that their wishes were taken into account.

Mr. Simonet said the nine agreed on the need for Palestinian self-determination as part of an overall settlement. "It is up to Israel to appreciate... the advantages which would accrue to its own security and prosperity from neighbourly relations made peaceful at last by satisfying the aspirations of the peoples concerned," he said.

Yesterday, British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said EEC leaders will issue statements on the Middle East when they meet here at the end of the month.

Lord Carrington, attending an EEC foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels, told a news conference that the subject had been discussed privately by the ministers. He declined to go into details.

Diplomatic sources said the summit's Middle East statement would be designed to maintain momentum in the nine's approach to the problem until the May 26 deadline set for progress towards Palestinian autonomy under the Camp David agreements.

Britain, Ireland, West Germany and Belgium had already followed France in stating that any solution to the Middle East conflict must include the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

The sources said France's European Affairs Minister Pierre Bernard-Raymond had told his colleagues that President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's tour of the Gulf had shown the Arab states not overly enthusiastic to a suggested cooperation agreement with the community.

Kuwait and the other small Gulf states were reluctant to endorse the idea, Iraq was cool to it and Saudi Arabia could see no particular benefit in it, the sources said.

The nine had agreed that Italy, current chairman of the EEC council of ministers, should follow up the proposal in the region.

In Bonn, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was quoted today as saying peace in the Middle East must be based on Israel's

right to exist and on Palestinian rights.

In an interview with the newspaper die Welt, Mrs. Thatcher said the two concepts must be at the foundation of a lasting peace formula. "Nothing good will come if we do not bring about these two conditions, simultaneously: that the Palestinians recognise Israel's right to exist within secure borders and that Israel recognises the right of the Palestinians to decide over their own future."

"That must happen simultaneously," she added. "Only then will there be a secure Middle East."

Britain's newly appointed ambassador to Israel, Mr. John Robinson, arrived in Tel Aviv last night and said his country remained committed to the key United Nations Resolution 242 on the Middle East.

Speaking to airport reporters, Mr. Robinson said that Britain believed that a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement will not be achieved until the resolution is fully implemented. "This means that all parties must recognise Israel's right to exist in secure borders, while Israel must withdraw from territories occupied in the 1967 war," he said.

In occupied Jerusalem, Israel's Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today that recent statements by European leaders indicated they would "join the anti-Israel forces and support those who threaten Israel's existence."

In his first speech as foreign minister in the Knesset, Mr. Shamir said declarations by French and West German leaders who regarded themselves as friends of Israel were particularly regrettable.

Mr. Shamir was replying to an urgent motion by former Foreign Minister Abba Eban saying that Europe was never so estranged from Israel as now.

Mr. Eban blamed what he called the shift in European Middle East policy on its dependence on Arab oil and Israel's policy on settlements in occupied Arab territory. "There is a strong movement in Israel in favour of those things which are provocative and superfluous should be suspended," Mr. Eban said. He gave as an example a temporary halt to settlements.

Khaled appoints four governors

BAHRAIN, March 19 (R) — King Khaled of Saudi Arabia today appointed Prince Majid Bin Abdul Aziz governor of the holy city of Mecca to replace his brother Prince Fawwaz who resigned in January for health reasons, the official Saudi Press Agency said.

Royal decrees also appointed three other sons of the late King Abdul Aziz to govern regions in the north of the kingdom.

Prince Majid, 42, resigned as minister for municipal and rural affairs to take governor's job but he keeps his ministerial ranks, the agency said. It did not name his successor.

Prince Fawwaz was governor of Mecca last November when armed extremists seized the mosque there, Islam's holiest shrine. More than 160 people, including 60 Saudi soldiers were reported killed when force was used to end the two-week occupation. Sixty-three of the extremists were later executed.

The other three princes are also given ministerial rank. Prince Abdullah, 42, takes charge of Al-Qasim region and Prince Muqren, 38, is appointed to govern Al Hayil region. Prince Abdul Majid, 39, takes over the region of Tabuk.

The three areas cover much of kingdom north of the capital Riyadh.

...Assad names three

DAMASCUS, March 19 (R)—President Hafez Al Assad today appointed new governors for three provincial cities in Syria.

The move came five days after the appointment of a new governor for the northern city of Aleppo, Syria's second-biggest, which has been shaken by unrest and violence over the past few weeks.

An official announcement released here by the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said the president had replaced the governors of Idlib, 60 kilometres south-west of Aleppo, Deraa on the Syrian-Jordanian border, and Deir Ez-Zor near the border with Iraq.

The announcement named the new men as Ammash Hazzah, Muhammad Mustafa Nawras, and Assad Omari respectively. Their responsibility covers the cities as well as surrounding districts.

Officials here described the appointments as part of a long-promised campaign to overhaul the state machinery and put the right men in the right jobs.

In a series of hard-hitting speeches last week, Mr. Assad blamed the United States and its Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for stirring internal unrest in Syria to weaken its role as the major country in the Arab confrontation with Israel.

Lebanese rightists shell Sidon

SIDON, Lebanon, March 19 (R) — Several shells landed in the Sidon area today for the fifth successive day, causing material damage but no casualties, local residents said.

In another incident in South Lebanon today, Israeli-backed rightist militiamen entered a village and blew up a house.

Residents said the shelling of the Oraya-Jensmaya area east of this southern Lebanese port town apparently came from the militia-controlled southern border area.

A spokesman was quoted by the militia's "Voice of Hope" radio as saying after an artillery barrage yesterday that there would be more attacks around Sidon if certain demands were not met.

These included the establishment of a branch of the Lebanese University in the militia-

controlled zone, that the Lebanese army be entrusted with security in Sidon and Palestinian commando offices here closed.

The militia control a 10 kilometre wide strip along the border with Israel.

In the central sector of the southern front, a militia force entered Haddatha early today and blew up a house, withdrawing later under fire cover from nearby hills, residents said. No casualties were reported in the incident.

The central sector is under the control of the Irish contingent of the U.N. peace-keeping force in South Lebanon.

In similar incidents in the past, the militia have accused the owners of destroyed property of working for, or sympathising with, Palestinian commandos.

Even if embassy hostages are released

U.S. to press claims against Iran

THE HAGUE, March 19 (R) — The United States said today it would press its claims against Iran before the World Court even if the hostages held in its Tehran embassy were released.

Deputy state department legal adviser Stephen Schwebel, arguing the U.S. case on the embassy seizure before the United Nations chamber, said Washington was asking for more than just the freeing of the hostages.

"Even if, as the United States profoundly hopes, the hostages are home before this court renders judgement, the United States will wish to maintain these claims," he said.

The United States is asking the court to condemn Iran for breaches of international law and to order Iran to pay the U.S. reparations in an amount to be determined later. It also asked that the people holding the hostages be prosecuted or extradited to the United States.

The U.S. took the case to the court after the embassy was seized on Nov. 4. In December the court ruled in interim measures that the hostages be released immediately. Iran has ignored the ruling and is boycotting the World Court proceedings.

U.S. chief counsel Roberts Owen told the 15 judges the world had entered a new era of terrorism in which the seizure of diplomatic hostages was becoming commonplace.

Mr. Owen said claims that the embassy was the centre of an American spy network were based partly on the occupiers' discovery within the building of material on the domestic situation in Iran.

However, those Iranians most closely associated with the spy

charges "apparently do not appreciate the fact that the collection and transmission of information about the host country is one of the most fundamental functions that diplomatic agents are expected to perform," he added.

Even if proof had been provided of such spying, the diplomat or diplomats involved should have been declared persona non grata and expelled, not incarcerated for months on end like common criminals, Mr. Owen said.

Mr. Owen said the conditions of the hostages were harsh and gave the following examples: — the female hostages were tied to straight chairs facing the wall kept in that position for 16 hours a day.

— all windows were boarded up and inside lights kept burning 24 hours a day, inhibiting sleep.

— the hostages were frequently blindfolded. The punishment for attempting to speak to another hostage or for disagreeing with one of the guards was to be blindfolded for hours.

— hands were kept bound or handcuffed at night.

— some hostages had to sleep on a cold, bare floor without blankets.

Meanwhile in Tehran, sixty-one minor offenders today walked out of Tehran's Evin prison under a wide-ranging amnesty approved by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The revolutionary leader's amnesty, announced to coincide with a week of Persian new year celebrations, appeared aimed at creating a feeling of security for administration officials and clergy who had cooperated with the Shah's regime.

He declared that all agents of the former government who had

not committed murder, torture or embezzlement were forgiven and the cases of others would be reviewed.

Dossiers of the former Shah's agents will be studied in the coming days, according to a statement from the revolutionary prosecutor's office.

Prominent centrist politicians have argued over the past year that insecurity for employees who worked under the Shah was crippling the administration. The amnesty will presumably mean they will no longer risk arrest unless they are guilty of major crimes.

The revolutionary prosecutor's office said about 100 prisoners still under review would be released by Friday. Further releases would be studied, it added.

The State radio tonight announced names of a commission chosen by the ruling Revolutionary Council to investigate electoral fraud. The seven-member commission, comprising unknown personalities, was asked by the president's cultural adviser to go to President Bani-Sadr's office tomorrow.

The court in Iran's troubled first round of parliamentary elections proceeded slowly today and a Tehran electoral official said it would not be completed in the capital before April 4, which was the favoured date for the second round.

Mr. Ali Akhbari, a member of the Tehran election control committee, told Reuters: "I can say without doubt that the results will not be known before April 4."

The slow pace of the counting in Tehran, where 433 candidates contested 30 seats in last Friday's

For separate meetings in April Carter invites Sadat, Begin to Washington

WASHINGTON, March 19 (Agencies) — President Carter will confer separately with the leaders of Egypt and Israel in Washington next month, the White House announced today.

Presidential spokesman Jody Powell said the dates for the visits by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin would be decided later.

In Cairo, a spokesman for the Egyptian president said the talks would probably take place during the second half of April.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli prime minister said he had agreed to new talks, but he gave little sign that Israel would be willing to be flexible on the question of autonomy for the Palestinians of the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

The presidential spokesman described the issues in the autonomy talks as extremely difficult for both Egypt and Israel. He said there was the clear hope that the Washington meetings would produce sufficient momentum to continue the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations even if agreement was not reached on every detail.

Mr. Powell also said the meetings were intended to support the negotiations, not replace them.

Invitations were extended when President Carter telephoned Mr. Sadat and Mr. Begin yesterday after two weeks of informal exchanges.

U.S. Middle East negotiator Sol Linowitz, who is leaving at the weekend for visits to Israel and Egypt, will discuss the Washington meetings further during his mission.

The White House announced the meetings as Mr. Carter faced an important primary election in New York next Tuesday, when the large Jewish vote might be decisive.

Spokesman Powell denied suggestions that the talks were timed to win over Jewish voters, many of whom were angered when the United States voted for a U.N. resolution condemning Israeli settlements on the occupied West Bank.

Two days after the vote on March 1, President Carter said the U.S. vote had been a mistake and disavowed the resolution. The White House admitted that the error was politically damaging.

The president's decision to hold the Washington meetings at a crucial stage of his re-election campaign was a political gamble, as was the 1978 Camp David summit and a subsequent trip to the Middle East that broke the deadlock in Egyptian-Israeli peace talks.

But Mr. Carter, who rejected the advice of virtually all of his advisers that he should not hold the Camp David summit, gave an example today of how an incumbent president can take an initiative that puts his political opponents at a disadvantage.

The White House spokesman said Mr. Carter had no plan to hold a three-way summit after conferring separately with Mr.

Sadat and Mr. Begin. But Mr. Powell did not close the door to a summit because, he said, it was impossible to predict future developments.

Mr. Powell said the three leaders felt, after months of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, that progress towards autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza could best be accomplished under the format announced today. He painted a rosier picture than existed in 1978.

Before the Camp David sum-



President Carter

mit, he said, there was no framework for discussing settlements in the Middle East and no peace between Egypt and Israel. Now there was a framework for negotiations and all three leaders had a mutual interest in success, he said.

Denied in Tel Aviv, Pretoria Weizman makes secret visit to South Africa

TEL AVIV, March 19 (AP)—Israeli media reported today that Defence Minister Ezer Weizman went on a secret diplomatic mission last week, possibly to South Africa.

Spokesmen in Pretoria and occupied Jerusalem denied Mr. Weizman had visited South Africa, which has cooperated closely with Israel in military matters.

News of the trip abroad first was published by the Maariv newspaper, which did not say what country the defence minister had visited. The paper said the visit was shrouded in tight secrecy, and Mr. Weizman reported directly to Prime Minister Menachem Begin on Tuesday in a four-hour meeting.

Israel Radio later reported that Mr. Weizman had been in South Africa, and that the visit had been kept secret to prevent criticism of Israeli links to Pretoria. Recent foreign reports said that the two countries had cooperated in testing a nuclear bomb, or possibly a neutron bomb, last September.

The radio report, however, was denied by a South African defence ministry spokesman in Pretoria and by a spokesman for Mr. Begin.

South Africa appeared a logical destination of the trip, which reportedly lasted three days ending last Friday because of its close links to the Israeli military industry. South African spokesmen have confirmed that Israel has sold military equipment to South Africa, including the advanced coastal patrol boat Reshef. Foreign reports also indicate cooperation on nuclear research.

A Columbia Broadcasting System correspondent broke Israeli military censorship last month with a story that Israel had tested a nuclear bomb off the South African coast in September. The report was denied in Israel.



U.S. marines dressed in warm winter clothes to protect them from cold temperatures, stand on snow-covered ground in front of their amphibious armoured personnel carrier at Fossmoen as they

discuss battle plan during the present North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) exercise 'Anorak Express' in North Norway this week. (AP wirephoto)

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Visiting UNFPA chief to sign \$7m population projects agreement

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, March 19—Jordan's socio-economic development gets a \$7 million boost tomorrow morning when National Planning Council President Dr. Hannah Odeh signs an agreement with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

The money will finance people projects over four years, 1980-83, and population data collecting and analysing.

Jordan is fortunate to receive so much assistance for its relatively small population, but the UNFPA feels the country deserves it. Previous UNFPA assistance in Jordan was well spent.

"We are satisfied with the performance of Jordan and that is why we are tripling our assistance," UNFPA executive director Mr. Rafael Salas told the Jordan Times.

The former Philippine "prime minister" (executive secretary of the republic, as he was called) said the \$7 million is actually an extension of continuing projects from the previous four-year assistance programme (1976-79). These projects include maternal health and child care centres, family planning assistance, statistical training, a demographic research programme at the University of Jordan and several socio-economic surveys which were expanded to assist and help finance the 1979 census.

In the first assistance programme (worth \$2.4 million), Jordan wisely used the funds to define national population policy and begin people projects in fields where they were most needed.

A good example of Jordan's policy is exemplified in the next four-year programme by the regional planning project for Allan, a town north of Salt. Studies will be made to assess the needs of residents in the area to determine which services will be most needed in the future, such as schools, health centres and labour management services.

The studies, and ensuing projects, will take into consideration the economic base of the people, whether it be farming, industry or small business, and the age distribution of the population.

"This kind of project follows Jordan's trend toward regionalisation, and looks at the basic needs according to the people in that region, whether they are farmers in the Jordan Valley or semi-nomads in the remote reg-

ions," UNFPA programme officer in Amman Mr. Derwas Alkhas said.

The Allan project will receive the largest single amount of financing from UNFPA's assistance, about \$1.5 million. Most of the remainder of the \$7 million will go to the continuing projects from the previous four-year programme, and will include hardware, such as computers, to store and analyse population and census data.

This will leave about \$1.5 million for unspecified projects. While here, Mr. Salas is discussing with government officials 11 possible projects to be funded.

Today he met with His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Information Minister Dr. Said Tal, Health Minister Dr. Zuhair Malhas, NPC President Dr. Hannah Odeh, Royal Scientific Society Director Dr. Albert Butrus and officials at the University of Jordan.



UNFPA Executive Director Rafael Salas meets with His Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The Ministry of Health plans to open six mother and child care centres every year during the next four-year programme, and will improve vaccination services for infants and pregnant women, JNA reported.

The UNFPA is funded solely by contributions from 91 developed countries, and assists 112 developing countries. This year alone it will distribute about \$500 million, by far the most in one year since it was founded by Mr. Salas 10 years ago. Of this amount, \$100 million will go to India and \$50 million to China.

"This is very important because it is for half the population of the world, and two-thirds the population of the developing world," Mr. Salas said. Some 80 per cent of the countries UNFPA assists use the funds for their policies of population reduction and growth stabilisation.

Jordan is using its funds to enhance and improve the status of its people.

Israel quashes West Bank mayors' protest against Abu Dis college closure

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 19 (R)—Israeli roadblocks today prevented Arab mayors from attending a protest demonstration against a decision by Israeli military authorities to close a West Bank college.

A military spokesman confirmed that the authorities ordered several days ago the closure within two weeks of a college at Abu Dis village on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Israel fears the college is the nucleus for a Palestinian university in Jerusalem, military sources said.

The spokesman said the college

was set up two years ago despite repeated denials for a permit.

"The 36 students at Abu Dis can attend any of the other three proper universities, five teachers colleges, three universities for Islamic studies and a technical college which exist in the West Bank," the spokesman said.

But the Mayor of Hebron, Fahd Qawasm, who was prevented from reaching a demonstration by several dozen students at the Abu Dis College, told reporters Israel does not have the right to order its closure.

"Israel did not decide to set up

the college, did not build it and does not finance it," Mayor Qawasm said.

The college was established by a joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee, West Bank sources said.

The sources said an East Jerusalem Arab resident was prepared to donate a large tract of land on the outskirts of the city for the building of a Palestinian university.

East Jerusalem Arab newspapers said the joint committee which supports the college decided at a meeting two weeks ago to extend its facilities.

NOTEBOOK

Compelling parallel

By Rami G. Khouri

THE DEVELOPMENTS in what used to be called Rhodesia and what is now called Zimbabwe are a rather timely and substantive lesson in how positive political change can be effected by reasonable people working within an honourable framework. The parallels with Palestine are compelling.

In Rhodesia a few years ago, we had to put up with repeated statements by former Prime Minister Ian Smith to the effect that he and other fine people who love children and treat animals with respect would never negotiate with the "murderers" of the assorted black guerrilla movements, of which, in a peculiarly apt parallel with the Palestinian resistance, there were many, and whose revolutionary solidarity with their fellow freedom fighters elsewhere caused them, too, to fight among themselves every once in a while. Such is the stranger side of national liberation politics, and it was no different in Rhodesia than it is in Palestine today.

Ian Smith was adamant about never dealing with the guerrillas in any future political negotiations, and then, of course, like all racists who grow up with their finger in the cracked dyke that tries to hold back the tide of history, he proceeded eventually to hold political negotiations with the very same people he tried to make believe did not exist.

The political scare tactics of the white minority government of Ian Smith were the same as those employed by Israel today. In the Rhodesian case, as in the Israeli one with the Palestinians, we were asked to believe that a black majority government in Rhodesia would necessarily usher in a) a blood-bath, b) a communist-controlled state that would destabilise the rest of Africa, c) domestic chaos that would result in some sort of tyrannical rule, or d) all of the above. The results of the transition to black majority rule in Rhodesia have proved these fears unfounded and exaggerated.

The same sort of false scenario is projected by the Israelis for an independent Palestine. They want the world to believe that a Palestinian state would be a communist cell in the middle of the Arab World, a fountainhead of turmoil and a spearhead of revolutionary chaos. Of course, this is all quite silly, but then it is accepted by people who spend half their time being silly, such as, to

mention another timely case, the dark-haired and handsome Ronald Reagan, the leading Republican Party presidential candidate in the United States, where silliness is almost a prerequisite for speaking out on the Palestinian issue.

Even the vocabulary is the same, in the case of white Rhodesians who refuse to see the reality of black Rhodesian nationalism and racist Zionist who refuse to see the reality of Palestinian national sentiment. When Ian Smith sent his army to bomb black guerrilla concentrations in neighbouring African states, he asked the world to acclaim the slaughter because he was only carrying out "preventive" raids to kill "terrorists" before they could kill Rhodesians. The same logic is put forth by Israel, which sends its army to drop bombs on Palestinians in neighbouring Arab states in the name of killing Palestinians before they can kill Israelis.

I do not want to get into a discussion of whether or not any people should be allowed to kill another people. That is for the philosophers to discuss. What strikes me as interesting is the similarity between what is happening in Rhodesia and what is happening in Palestine.

The essential differences between the Rhodesian and Palestinian cases are two: the presence of a truly impartial, consistent, and resolute mediator, and the ability of exclusivist and racial political leaders to see the madness and historic illegitimacy of their claims.

The performance of Great Britain as a mediating party in Rhodesia is a fine example, mediating at its best. The United States' mediation of the Arab-Israeli conflict is the other end of the spectrum, an example of well-intentioned and otherwise honourable people falling apart the thick of things.

The Israelis, like the white and black Rhodesians, will have to learn to live on equal terms with the Palestinians, either in a single state or in two equally sovereign states.

Until these two requirements are met, the Palestinian struggle against Zionist racism as colonialism will go on, and with it the reciprocal killing that is such a part of the human landscape all around us. The Rhodesian transformation in the state of Zimbabwe, in the meantime, is a fine example of what can happen when people move with the momentum of history, instead of against it.

Labour pains

JUST WHEN the Arabs are already resigned to having their hopes for progress towards Middle East peace being held hostage to the American electoral process for the next eight months, it now appears we must also brace ourselves against the even closer and less propitious winds emanating from a possible Israeli general election campaign.

With Mr. Begin's Likud coalition crumbling day by day, the main opposition Labour party is gearing up to regain its domination of Israeli political life. Latest polls indicate that it elections were held tomorrow, the Labour alignment would not only reverse its unique 1977 defeat but win an absolute majority in parliament for the first time in Israel's history.

So it is incumbent upon us to be aware of what a committed Labour government would have in store for us. Israel's election, even more so than most, will be fought mostly on domestic economic issues, what with raging 150 per cent inflation and a host of other ills. But Zionism in general is also clearly passing through its greatest crisis since the creation of Israel: Mr. Begin's abrasive style and aggressive policies, and his phoney peace with Egypt, have happily lost Israel friends at every turn -- we may have reason to thank him one day for the respectability which he has permitted the Palestinian Arab cause to earn in circles which once winked at the endemic extremism of Zionism of which Mr. Begin is by far not the only practitioner.

The Labour coalition's leader, Mr. Shimon Peres, is already off and running and it's important that we should study his views on the Palestine issue. For the most part, Mr. Peres's insistence on diverting this issue away from Palestine is every bit as consistent as Mr. Begin's adherence to the concept of "Eretz Yisrael." Where Mr. Begin is busy "creating facts" in the occupied Arab territories through the construction of Jewish settlements and the systematic depletion of their indigenous human and natural resources, Mr. Peres favours a paternalistic status quo being maintained in those areas -- with the Palestinian Arabs, and thus the Palestinian "question" -- remaining outside them.

If Mr. Begin is determined that a Palestinian state shall never be established anywhere within a stone's throw of his "Land of Israel," Mr. Peres is content to tinker with demarcation lines and scatter the seeds of that state on the other side of the fence, Israel stays where it is, and the Palestinians where they are.

It is difficult to say which attitude is the more arrogant. It is not difficult to see that both carry the seeds of further conflict. If Mr. Begin strives for a "final solution," Mr. Peres favours no solution at all. There is nothing either of them can offer the Palestinians short of recognition of their existence as a people, their rights to establish a state in their homeland in Palestine and their dignity as human beings. No Israeli election is going to bring that about.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL-RUB: It seems that the Camp David parties, to keep the Middle East question under their domination and the prevent the EEC countries from taking the initiative and taking the issue to the international platform, are now having recourse to the expedient of evading the date which they specified for ending the autonomy talks and prolonging it to another date.

Evidence for this trend can be gathered from the following:

... The assurance of Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who has said that if the deadline is extended the negotiations will succeed.

... The telephone conversation between U.S. President Carter and President Sadat on Thursday, concerning local autonomy. Their discussion may have aimed at extending the deadline, or at referring the matter to a new summit of the Camp David group.

... The speech made by the Egyptian president on Tuesday, in which he tried to play down the French position and to warn that its principles cannot be implemented except through the Camp David process. It is obvious that what Mr. Sadat said will be refuted if the autonomy negotiations are deadlocked on May 26.

The European countries, therefore, are called upon not to postpone their initiative, even if Egypt, Israel and the U.S. prolong the autonomy negotiations; otherwise the initiative will look as if it obeys the will of Camp David—an impression which would weaken the world's confidence in it and surround it with much suspicion.

AL-DUSTOUR: It seems that the Arab countries, in their dealings with other governments, have a tendency to forget that behind European governments are parliaments, people and parties which, according to the prevailing democratic traditions, must be resorted to in the decision-making process.

Therefore, the Arab countries up to now have not undertaken any effort at the popular level to support the positive attitude of the European governments, thus leaving public opinion and the media in the hands of Israel and Zionist organisations.

The Arab countries have rested satisfied with the statements of French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and others. But the needs of the cause, and the nature of the Israeli approach, which deals with the Arab governments by inciting other power centres against them—all this imposes on Arab countries especially their information and foreign ministers, the need to move promptly, effectively and intelligently to start a dialogue with parliamentarians and information media in the European countries, to convince them of the justice of the Arab stand.

This should be done through inviting parliamentarians and opinion leaders to visit Arab countries, by sending lecturers to Western capitals and holding symposiums and conferences there to explain the Palestinian cause and expound the interests linking Europe with the Arab people -- interests that are inevitably affected by the general blind support for Israel's position.

'Coca-Cola and self-correcting typewriter ribbons...'

Dear Sir,

Rami G. Khouri's March 13 Notebook article, "Talk on, for you are among friends" is abrasively presumptuous. It once again illustrates to what extent proverbial Arab rhetoric, stupefying exaggeration, self-deception and auto-hypnosis intoxicates the senses, blinds the mind, ultimately defeats and loses its purpose.

Now that he appears to have purged himself of so blatant a bias, and in a manner described in modern idiom as a "cheap shot," I feel, as an American adviser and guest-resident in Jordan, incumbent to respond. This for my own inner satisfaction and likewise for the benefit of those who may be intellectually hoodwinked and emotionally contaminated by the pretentious verbosity of this 100-proof erudite humbug whose hangovers periodically soil your literary sheets.

Forgiving the convoluted syntax which characterizes his wayward, way-out, sophomoric satire, the utter lack of depth, sense and elementary understanding of American political, social, economic and cultural history and values, particularly as they relate to the Middle East are sadly yet terrifyingly appalling.

And if Jordan and other Arab States expect to advance their cause and that of the Palestinians, might we suggest less vitriol, more veracity, but above all, more intelligence -- that is, respect for the readers?

Khouri's words comprise and characterize his level of awareness, knowledge and understanding. And thus they display the basis on which he measures America's "grandeur." He thereupon totalizes for his and our benefit America's "greatest contribution to humanity" as the sum of a gaseous soft drink plus a glorified electro-mechanical tape eraser. (Now there must be a personal lesson in values here somewhere.)

Withall, dear editor, he is allowed to proclaim himself, indeed, be prominently presented and even provided a mantle of literary respectability in the Jordan Times as a spokesman for the Arab and Palestinian cause. In this I would venture that most thoughtful people, Americans or otherwise, who are consciously literate are not terribly impressed by so degenerate a level of yellow journalistic standard bearing.

In the first place, and to put things into clear historical perspective, if it were not for the American blood spilled coming to the aid of the Allied cause in 1917 and the subsequent brilliant military victories scored, culminating in the defeat of the Axis, there would be no Jordan; and Palestine along with Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and the rest of the Arab peninsula would still comprise the stagnating backwaters of the Turkish Ottoman Empire -- no doubt still subject to and subjugated by yet another sultanate dynasty; governed, of course, by one of the typically "enlightened" viziers who so often obscenely graced its local despotic history.

Would you reflect, dear editor, in this instance what sort of considerate attention and thoughtful response would be provided to discussions and demands of autonomy, self-determination, independence for Jordan or Palestine or any other nationalistic movement or activities by the courteous Turkish Ottoman magistrates so confronted?

Then, perhaps we are being uncharitable: Khouri's objectivity may be medically or mentally impaired. His obvious inferiority com-

plex and western paranoia more than likely prescribes and blocks out any further recognition, appreciation or understanding of America's "contributions to humanity", as a defence mechanism to allay the critical consequence of more grievous, perhaps terminal psychological derangement.

Thus for the sake of innocent readers who might have been taken in, caught up and snake-bit by these hysterically hypnotic rantings, it might be a worthwhile antidote to set forth several other American contributions that seem to have somehow escaped Mr. Khouri's attention, as he apparently instinctively plunged frantically through the lush jungle of knowledge, neither seeing the forest nor the trees--only the dark, shadowy haunting phantoms, scaly dragons and other vile monsters of frenzy and fear.

Let us then enumerate: In addition to those two significant achievements already mentioned, how about the cotton gin; interchangeable parts which vanguard the concept of mass production; the steel mouldboard plow; the grain reaper; the telephone; the typewriter; the automobile; the airplane; the helicopter; the T.V.; the photocopy; the refrigerated air-conditioner; the moving picture; the pneumatic rubber tire; household appliances; atomic fission and fusion; smokeless gunpowder; reinforced concrete; the skyscraper; petroleum exploring, drilling and cracking technology; mass production of industrial and consumer goods, particularly the auto which gave rise and wealth to the Middle East; world standards in economic and social development; universal education; democratic government resulting in life and hope for the common man; foreign aid; thermo-pane and tinted glass; the measurement of the speed of light; respectability of physical labor; religious, political and economic freedom; the agricultural revolution; the soft contact lens; popcorn; breakfast cereals; and Walt Disney(!), the League of Nations and the United Nations, and we've been at it for about two hundred years!

Along with advanced computer technology the Americans are feverishly working, perfecting a self-correcting mechanical brain. And no doubt as a typically charitable yet naive gesture, the first completed test-proven sample model will be stamped with the red, white and blue of Uncle Sam's joined hands symbol -- seen so often in Jordan as part of the grant for aid program being provided the people of Jordan by U.S. taxpayers, and sent forthwith to Rami Khouri, along with a complimentary case of Ex-Lax, another American "humanitarian" contribution.

Yours sincerely,

Robert B. Staller

P.O. Box 2392
Amman
March 17, 1980

EDITOR'S NOTE: As the style of Mr. Staller's own letter seems to indicate, he must be aware that Mr. Khouri was engaging in a kind of hyperbole for which his columns are not unknown. We leave to others to judge the accuracy of Mr. Staller's interpretation of history (if the U.S. made possible the creation of Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, etc., did it not also facilitate the creation of Israel?) and his own rather eclectic list of American contributions to civilisation (what, no polio vaccine? or atomic bomb? no safety pin, launderette or ball-point pen?). Columnist Khouri advises us that he in fact omitted from his list what he thinks is the greatest American invention of all: baseball.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Theatre

The Amman Players will present their latest production, Petr Ustinov's comedy "Romanoff and Juliet". The play is at 8 p.m. at the Jordan Theatre in Jabal Luweibdeh.

Exhibitions

The British Council presents an exhibition of oil and water-color paintings by the Lebanese artist Zaid Allah Jabbour.

The Goethe Institute and Yarmouk university present an exhibition of documents representing the "Life and Influence of Albe Einstein" in the university's Physics Department.

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of photographs on "Advanced Technology." The aircraft, electronics and space industries are represented, among others.

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Hassan's birthday today

AMMAN, March 19 (JT)—His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, pictured at left with Her Highness Princess Sarvath and their children, will celebrate his 34th birthday on Thursday, March 20.

Recommendations of Islamic seminar put before King

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — A delegation from the Seminar on Islamic Thought in Jordanian Society today submitted the recommendations of the seminar to His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Hashemite Court.

King Hussein told the Islamic scholars and other thinkers who participated in the seminar, which was held Jan. 16-20, that objective dialogue reflects one of the basic characteristics of Jordanian life.

He added: "Every step that links us with our sublime faith and fertile heritage receives from us every support and backing."

King Hussein emphasised that "Islamic values are the basis of our cultural existence and the origin of

our strength and power."

He advocated dealing with all issues facing our society and the Arab and Islamic worlds with openness, objectivity and total awareness.

The King called for modernising educational curricula, introducing new methods and technology and encouraging scientific research and scholarship.

Crown Prince Hassan spoke on the seminar, which he had chaired.

He outlined its guiding principles as stressing both the Islamic heritage and the scientific approach and linking traditional Arab and Islamic thought with an objective perspective on contemporary challenges.

The recommendations clearly reflect the findings of the seminar, Prince Hassan noted.

Later there was a discussion in which a number of the participants took part.

Among the most outstanding recommendations adopted by the participants in the seminar were the establishment of the Al al-Bait institute for Islamic studies, a college to train Islamic preachers and a higher national guidance council.

The Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Mr. Kamel Al Sharif, also spoke at the meeting.



His Majesty King Hussein meets with the Islamic delegation.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, March 19 (JT) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade has issued licences for six new industrial plants in Jordan, *Al Ra'i* newspaper reported today. It said the total capital to be invested in these concerns would reach JD 3,547 million, and that they will employ nearly 278 workers. The new plants are for the manufacture of plastic products, cigarettes, farm implements, biscuits and shoes.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — A visiting delegation of deans of Moroccan Universities called at the University of Jordan today and met with its acting president, Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra. They explored fields of cooperation between Jordanian and Moroccan universities, the exchange of staff visits and expertise and other subjects. Dr. Samra briefed the delegation on the development of the university faculties and their plans for future programmes. The delegation arrived here yesterday on a five-day visit to Jordan. Its members will be visiting other educational institutions and will meet with officials of the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University to discuss bilateral cooperation.

AMMAN, March 19 (JT) — Arab economy and foreign ministers will hold a meeting in Amman on June 23 to discuss a number of subjects referred to them by the Arab summit conference held in Tunis last November, Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Nsour said today. He told *Al Ra'i* newspaper that the ministers will discuss boosting economic ties among Arab states and economic relations between Arab and foreign countries, as well as food security for the Arab World. A special Jordanian committee has been set up to prepare a number of working papers for the meeting, Mr. Nsour said. He added that the Tunis summit had called for the meeting to be held in Amman to follow up on subjects which the Arab leaders had discussed at their meetings.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — The Director General of the Antiquities Department, Dr. Adnan Hadidi, left for Britain today to prepare for the first biennial conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan, which will open under the patronage of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan at Oxford University on March 25. Nearly 250 historians and scholars will be taking part in the six-day conference, at which will be presented working papers on the history and geology of Jordan, its antiquities and population, a source at the Antiquities Department said.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — The Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils today granted the town of Al Khaldiyyeh in the Mafrq governorate a JD 10,000 loan to build a local school. It also granted a loan of JD 3,000 to the village council of Unm Batmeh in the Amman governorate for the construction of

three new class rooms for the village's preparatory school.

AMMAN, March 19 (JT) — Loans totalling JD 333,143 were granted to municipal and village councils around the country in the past week alone, the director of the Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils, Mr. Hajem Tal, said today. He told *Al Ra'i* newspaper that the loans went to 18 municipal and village councils to help finance local projects and public services.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — Jordan will take part in a tourism exhibition to open in the Italian city of Bari on March 31, a source at the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities said today. It said the Jordanian pavilion, which is to be set up jointly by the ministry and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, will display brochures, tourist maps and other material on tourist attractions in Jordan. The Jordanian delegation to the Bari exhibition will hold talks with international and Italian tourist agents on means of boosting tourism in Jordan, the sources added.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — Leaders of scout movements in the Arab World will hold a meeting in Amman early next month, at which they will discuss several subjects pertaining to scouting in the Arab World. The Scouts and girl guides organisations in Jordan are reported to be making preparations for the meeting.

AMMAN, March 19 (JNA) — The total number of incidents in Jordan during February was 967. These incidents resulted in the deaths of 26 persons and the injury of 450 others, according to a statistical bulletin issued today by the Public Security Directorate. It said the figures for January 1980 were: 1057 incidents, resulting in 20 deaths and 312 injuries. According to the statement the total number of road accidents in February was 876. The accidents alone caused 24 deaths and 352 injuries. Amman, he said, had the lion's share — of the accidents, accounting for 53 per cent of the total figure whereas Irbid had 17.1 per cent, Zarqa 8.3 per cent and Aqaba only 2.2 per cent.

DEIR ALLA, March 19 (JT) — A 42-year-old man from this town in the central Jordan Valley attempted to kill his wife and then, presuming she was dead, turned himself in the police. A story in *Al Ra'i* newspaper published today said that the man attempted the murder of his 29-year-old wife first by stabbing her and then by strangling her with his bare hands. After hearing his story the police rushed to the house and found the woman still alive but unconscious and bleeding heavily. She was rushed to hospital, where she was reported to be in satisfactory condition. The man was reported to have committed the act after his sterile wife had refused to take a folk remedy which he thought would enable her to bear children.

TCC begins switching to fully automated telephone exchange system tonight at eight

By Ron Cathell
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

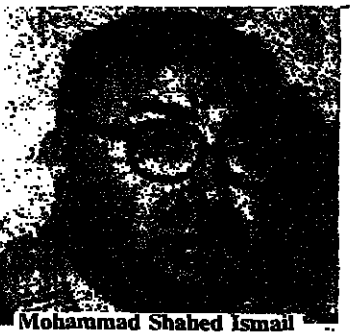
AMMAN, March 19 — If you're cut off in the middle of a telephone conversation Thursday night, don't worry. It's in the name of progress.

At 8 p.m. the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) will begin switching over from the outdated electro-mechanical system at the Abdali exchange to a modern, fully automatic computerised system. It's all part of the TCC's continuing efforts to upgrade Jordan's telephone service.

The new exchange will add an initial 3,000 lines to the existing 7,000. It has a maximum capacity for handling 30,000 lines.

All telephone numbers through the Abdali exchange begin with the digit "6" so all subscribers with such numbers will start enjoying the benefits of the new system by midnight Thursday.

These benefits include an instant dial tone, a busy signal whenever the number dialled is actually busy — instead of the dead line one gets occasionally — and a recording saying a number dialled is no longer in service instead of a constant busy signal being emitted. In Amman, a caller frequently dials the number of another exchange, for example a number starting with "4" which goes through the Zahran exchange in Jabal Amman, but before he can finish dialling the complete number a busy signal comes on. This is because the trunk lines connecting the sepa-



Mohammad Shaded Ismail

rate exchanges are fully occupied. In such cases, a caller from the new Abdali exchange will hear a recording saying all trunk lines are occupied, and it will ask him to try again in a few minutes.

"Amongst the merits of the new electronic exchange are its ability to cope with the telephone traffic loads for metropolitan areas, providing 'full availability' to the subscribers compared to the 'limited availability' of the old exchange," TCC Director General Mohammad Shaded Ismail told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Ismail explained that the old system offers each subscriber the availability of 20 outside lines. When a subscriber's receiver is lifted, an electro-mechanical mechanism "feels" for an open line among the 20, but sometimes all lines are occupied and the subscriber gets no dial tone.

With the new exchange, Mr. Ismail said, "the phenomenon of 'no-dial-tone' will disappear." The new system is capable of elec-

tronically scanning all lines in a split second and connecting the caller with an open line.

Because the new system has no moving parts like the old system, there will be very few faults caused by wear. When there is a problem in the new system, its computer will automatically diagnose, identify and locate the problem, and produce this information on a teleprinter.

Other benefits that will become available with the new exchange, at additional cost, are abbreviated dialling, a system to place a call on hold, a call transfer system and priority status.

Abbreviated dialling will become possible in the case of numbers frequently used. Once a subscriber's phone is properly programmed with the exchange's computer, he only has to dial the first two digits of one of these numbers to get his call through.

A hold system allows a subscriber to have an incoming call wait while he answers another call, and then get back to the first call without any disconnection.

A transfer system takes all incoming calls to a particular telephone number and automatically transfers them to another pre-selected number during any desired hour. This would be particularly advantageous for doc-

tors, for example, who could have emergency office calls transferred from their clinics to their home during the evening.

Priority status means such a subscriber is the last to be disconnected when repairs at the exchange, or on cables, are being made.

Mr. Ismail pointed out that the new exchange allows a subscriber ten seconds to dial each digit of the number. Should the subscriber fail to do this, or should he exceed 50 seconds to dial a five-digit number, he will lose the line and must get a new dial tone.

The additional 3,000 lines of the new exchange will not be available immediately. The TCC must first extend trunk lines within the Abdali exchange region. This is being done now through contract with a Japanese firm.

Mr. Ismail said the TCC has already ordered equipment for the first extension of 10,000 lines. Full capacity is 30,000 lines. Financing has been arranged through a Japanese loan.

On Feb. 10 the TCC put into operation Jordan's first fully automatic electronic system at the Marka exchange, and it plans to do the same soon with the exchanges at Sweileh and Wadi Seer.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Arab Union Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	100	1,730	1,730	1,730
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Co.	JD 10,000	69	14,900	14,900	14,900
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co.	JD 5,000	4850	5,600	5,600	5,600
Al Ezdihar Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	50	3,000	3,000	3,000
Arabian Development and Investment	JD 2,000	400	1,480	1,480	1,480
Arabian Seas Insurance Co. Ltd.	JD 5,000	271	12,600	12,600	12,600
Islamic Bank	JD 1,000	450	2,680	2,680	2,680
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	300	13,250	13,000	13,250
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	4300	1,630	1,630	1,630
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	2900	2,000	2,000	2,000
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	2700	1,460	1,450	1,450
Jordan Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	5015	2,500	2,450	2,450
Jordan National Bank	JD 5,000	63	14,000	14,000	14,000
Investment Co.	JD 1,000	90	4,330	4,330	4,330
Dar Al Sha'ab	JD 1,000	750	1,080	1,080	1,080
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	2939	3,450	3,450	3,450
Jordan General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	1000	1,400	1,400	1,400
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	1300	1,080	1,080	1,080
Arab Company for Aluminium Industries	JD 1,000	2250	1,660	1,660	1,660
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	4475	2,300	2,200	2,300
International Construction and Investment	JD 1,000	13200	1,070	1,070	1,070
Arab Finance Corporation	JD 10,000	10000	12,500	12,500	12,500
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 10,000	242	21,200	20,900	21,200
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1,000	1200	0,990	0,990	0,990
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	500	0,930	0,930	0,930
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	500	3,450	3,450	3,450
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1,000	1750	2,550	2,550	2,550
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	3010	10,500	10,450	10,450
National Steel Industry	JD 10,000	1020	15,000	14,900	15,000

Total Volume Traded on Wednesday, March 19, 1980: JD 248,303

Total number of shares traded: 67,694

Government Development Bonds

Year of Maturity	Par Value	Number Traded	Volume Traded	High	Low
1982	JD 5,000	32	160	5,300	5,200

TODAY'S WEATHER

A rise in temperature will occur, with medium and high clouds. Wind will be southwesterly moderate, freshening at times. In Aqaba, it will be dusty, with southerly moderate winds, freshening at times, and rough seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
	low	high
Amman	6	14
Aqaba	12	25
Deserts	5	19
Jordan Valley	11	21

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	305.50/307.50
U.K. sterling	667.40/671.40
West German mark	162.70/163.70
Swiss franc	171.50/172.50
French franc	69.60/70.00
Italian lire	
(for every 100)	34.80/35.00
Japanese yen	
(for every 100)	122.70/123.40
Dutch guilder	148.40/149.30
Swedish crown	69.60/70.00
Belgium franc	100.30/100.90

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THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jordan Valley authority announces to all drilling contractors who have picked up or requested copies of the tender document for the Jordan Valley water well drilling programme that:

1. The deadline for receipt of bids is extended to 12 p.m. Saturday, April 12, 1980.
2. An addendum No. 2 to the tender document has been prepared in addition to addendum No. 1. Addendum No. 2 can be obtained from the office of the Jordan Valley Authority at the Third Circle in Jabal Amman/Hydrology and Ground Water Division.

Omar Abdulla Dukhgan
President

LOST DOG

Samantha, seven-year-old female wolfdog, black with the usual brown markings. Disappeared Feb. 28. Any helpful information will be appreciated.

REWARD

Please telephone 37084 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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TIME The World News Magazine

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WHERE WAS GEORGES? (WITH MULLER-BYLINE)
STORY ON QUESTIONS ABOUT WARTIME WHEREABOUTS OF FRENCH COMMUNIST LEADER.
TEHRAN: WHO'S IN CHARGE? (STORY ON FAILURE OF THE U.N. MISSION TO FREE HOSTAGES).
OUR MISSION: WIN OR DIE. (STORY ON DEFANT, TERRORISTS HOLDING IN COLOMBIA).

Winter Olympics results

LAKE PLACID, Feb. 19 (Agencies) — Only one man can beat silent Swede Ingemar Stenmark for the Olympic giant slalom title today — and that is Stenmark himself.

Six gold medals will be decided on the heaviest day of the games. But only the speed skating, with American Eric Heiden going for his third successive victory, can stop the glamorous alpine skiers from hogging the limelight.

Stenmark, possibly the least talkative man at the games, is unquestionably the most technically accomplished giant slalom and slalom skier in the world.

The statistics prove it. He has won a total of 46 World Cup races and has not been beaten in the giant for two years.

In the World Cup he has been super-consistent. But if there is a flaw in his make-up, it concerns his temperament rather than his skill.

Four years ago in Innsbruck he was a bundle of nerves and tossed away the chance of an Olympic title. This time he is an even fiercer favourite but he cannot afford to repeat the error he made in the first run of the giant slalom yesterday.

That mistake cost Stenmark the three tenths of a second by which he trails leader Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein at the start of the second run.

Hans Enn of Austria is also ahead of him on first-run timings, but that would not nor-

mally bother Stenmark who has made a career out of demolishing opponents the second time around.

On the same Whiteface Mountain course at the pre-Olympics a year ago he was half a second behind on the first leg and wound up winning by over two seconds.

All Stenmark has to do is control his nerves. But that is not a problem facing Heiden, who looked utterly relaxed as he cruised through the 500 and 5,000 metres on his way to a stated target of all five speed skating gold medals.

These were supposed to be his weaker events, but the American looked unstoppable and is expected to be at least two seconds faster than his rivals in today's 1,000 metres.

The two Nordic gold medals could go to East Germany who will be looking for their first ever Olympic biathlon title and a third successive Nordic combination victory.

Frank Ullrich and Klaus Siebert incurred penalties for hasty marksmanship in the 20 kilometre biathlon, but they should be a threat in the 10-kilometre race.

In the Nordic combination, Ullrich Wehling set himself up for a third successive gold by taking the lead in the 70 metres ski jump. He goes into the second half of the combination, the 15 kilometre cross-country, as a firm favourite for the title.

East Germany will also be

looking for a gold in the two-man luge in which Hans Rinn and Norbert Hahn hope to follow up the individual victory of Bernhard Glass two days ago.

The Soviet Union should pick up their second figure skating title when world champions Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov complete their ice dancing schedule.

But the men's short programme will be skated without world champion Vladimir Kovalev. The Russian withdrew with influenza yesterday, after East German Jan Hoffmann had taken the lead in the compulsory figures.

Russia, the United States and Sweden all remained undefeated in the Olympic hockey tournament, but the Soviets had quite a scare. Trailing 2-1 with 5:01 to play, they rallied on goals by Vladimir Krutov, Alexander Maitsev and Boris Mikhailov in 1:19 to defeat Finland 4-2. That averted what would have been the first Soviet Olympic hockey defeat in 12 years.

Buzz Schneider scored two goals as the United States routed Romania 7-2, while Sweden got three goals and an assist from Mats Ahlberg to wipe out winless Norway 7-1.

In yesterday's other hockey games, Canada shut out Japan 6-0, Holland topped Poland 5-3 and Czechoslovakia defeated West Germany 11-3.

Meanwhile, a controversy centring around former hur-

ling champion Wallie Davenport surfaced on the American bobsled team. Coach Gary Sheffield had attempted to re-shuffle the makeup of America's no. 1 sled team four days before the start of competition but was rebuffed by driver Bob Hickey.

"Bob Hickey wanted to keep the guys he had trained with all winter," said Sheffield. "There's really no dissension on the team. We wanted to make sure we had the best people in the start."

However, there was reported resentment against Davenport by other members of the team because the ex-

hurdler, a black man, had gone home just before the start of the games, preventing the American no. 1 sled from working out together, and because he referred to bobsledders as "rich and white" in a newspaper interview.

"That 'rich and white' stuff, that really fried everybody's mind," said Howard Siler, driver of America's no. 2 four-man sled. "That fried my mind. It's not true. It wasn't the thing to say. We're not rich and we have no racial problems here."



The Soviet Union's national ice hockey team is expected to win the gold medal in the Lake Placid Winter Games. The Soviets have not lost an Olympic hockey match in 12 years.

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

England defeat India

BOMBAY, Feb. 19 (R) — An unbroken opening stand of 98 between Geoff Boycott and Graham Gooch carried England to a ten-wicket win over India in the Golden Jubilee Cricket Test here today. India's hopes of setting England a reasonable second innings target disappeared in the opening few minutes of the fourth day's play when they lost their last two wickets for the addition of only one run. Resuming at 148 for eight they lost Shival Yadvav to the first ball of the morning — caught by wicketkeeper Bob Taylor off Ian Botham. John Lever wrapped up the innings when he took a return catch to dismiss Dilip Doshi.

Botham, who rescued England's first innings with a hard hit 114, finished with seven for 58 for match figures of 13 for 106. He is the first player to capture more than 12 wickets in a Test in India. Taylor was England's other star performer. His catch today was his 10th of the match and took him past Australian Gil Langley's wicketkeeping test record of nine dismissals which has stood since 1956.

Indonesia backs Moscow Olympics boycott

JAKARTA, Feb. 19 (R) — The Indonesian government favours a boycott of the Moscow Olympics if Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan, Vice-President Adam Malik said in Jakarta yesterday. Speaking at a foreign correspondents' club lunch, Mr. Malik said the government had told the Indonesian Olympic Committee it was against sending a team to Moscow, but emphasised that it was up to the committee to decide whether or not to participate. According to the U.S. State Department, 24 nations have so far indicated they will follow a proposed U.S. boycott of next July's Moscow Olympics, but the uncertainty of the precise number will remain until May when the acceptance of invitations to Moscow is due. Answering questions, Mr. Malik said the recent recall of Indonesia's ambassador to Kabul could be interpreted as a sign that Indonesia was considering cutting diplomatic ties with Afghanistan.

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phone 6711-2-3

MISCELLANEOUS

Established to promote the preservation and marketing of hand-made articles by Jordanian craftsmen. Visit us soon to see the unique and practical items at the center (see map).
Jordan Craft Development Center
Telephone 44555 P.O. Box 2701

SONY.
For Betamax, televisions, stereos and other SONY products:
Agent and distributor
ZAKI A. GHUL Tel. 21770

EYES EXAMINED CONTACT LENSES (Hard & Soft)
OPTIKOS SHAMI O.D
The Best Ever Made in Optics
Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel 42043

Visit **Caravan Bazaar**
At Al-Hussain Youth City Specialised in:
Olive Wood, Mother of Pearl, Silver, Gold Jewellery & all kind of Hand-craft Products wholesale & Retail
Tel. 67181, 42526 P.O. Box 2768, Amman - Jordan.

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FOR: SHIPPING-TRAVEL & TOURISM
INSURANCE-CLEARANCE
AIR FREIGHT-PACKING
PLEASE CONTACT:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Travel & Tourism
Tel. 37195, 23234 5-6-7-8-9
Tlx. 21212, 21520, 21634
P.O. Box 7806, Amman

NATIONAL RENT-A-CAR
1979 Models now available
SHEPHERD HOTEL
Tel. 39197

JORDAN EXPRESS CO.
PACKING & CRATING
AIR & SEA FREIGHT
TRAVEL & TOURISM
King Hussein St., P.O. Box 2143
Tel. 22565, 21778, 33141

SWEET'S
JUST ARRIVED!!!
SPRING COLLECTION:
Casual Sportswear:
Jeans, Cords, Shirts, Suits, Skirts, Boots and more...
Jabal Amman - Pr. Mhd St
Jabal Luweibdeh - Near Municipality Park

SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR
BRAND NEW MODELS
TEL. 25767

RENT A CAR
NEW MODELS
LONG OR SHORT TERM
CALL 64137, 8 TODAY
Shmeisan, Next to Omar Khayyam Hotel.

SUPERMARKETS

BABEL SUPERMARKET
Jabal Luweibdeh
For fresh meat and a complete selection of imported foodstuffs visit us today.
Opp. Fataleh Pharmacy near Eagle Travel Agency.
See Abu Faud in our butchery for the finest meat.

ABDOUN SUPERMARKET
FRESH DAILY!!
meat, fruits & vegetables
Plus big assortment of foodstuffs and beverages
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For advertising in the
JORDAN TIMES
Call: 67171-2-3-4

AQABA

Samir Amis Restaurant & Bar
Located in central Aqaba, we offer you superb Oriental, European & Seafood dishes. Fresh sweets daily. Catering & take-away service available.
Tel. 04-5505

Miramar Hotel
Air conditioned comfort, fresh water pool, disco and much more make Miramar the place to stay in Aqaba. Come in time for our Saturday buffet.
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AQABA'S REMAL RESTAURANT
Announces its weekly BUFFET BAR B.O. - every Friday lunch. Every Thursday night is Continental night. Next Thursday is Spanish night.
JD 6, including Disco entrance.
The very latest in modern entertainment, Design, Decor, all at prices you can afford.
Tel. 4646, 4747, Aqaba

CHINA RESTAURANT
The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba. Take-Away service. Open 11:30 - 3:30; 6:30 - 11:30 daily.

AQABA Holiday Inn
COME TO THE SUN!
Relax in comfort and ease at the Aqaba Holiday Inn where children under 12 stay free when sharing the same room with their parents.
TEL. (04) 2426Tlx. 92263

HAVE FUN IN THE AQABA SUN...
at the Hotel-Club **AQUAMARINA**
enjoy our daily special **Shawarma on the Beach**
For reservation please call: Aqaba tel. 4333-4-5-6 Amman: 44932.

RECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAR. 20, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

on the Carroll Righter Institute

IES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Attend to important duties in the day so you'll have more time for social activities later. Be more optimistic.

URUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) The time is not right for new responsibilities. Sidelstep one who is mental to your progress.

MINI (May 21 to June 21) Take steps to patch up differences with an associate. Study your financial on and make plans to improve it.

ON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Contact a wise elder friend for advice you need. You can make an impression on higher-ups now.

O (July 22 to Aug. 21) Important business matter is handled early in the day. Analyze your activities and re you are as practical as you should be.

IGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Begin the day wisely by any promises you have made. Go to the right as for the information you need.

IRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Try to economize more so won't be caught in a financial pinch in the future. clear of a group meeting today.

OPPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) An associate can help solve a difficult problem in the morning. Show in devotion to loved one.

GITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Positive thinking help you gain your aims at this time. You can make an impression on others now.

PRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Put those creative to work now and get excellent results. Avoid one has an eye on your assets.

UARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Find out what family bers desire of you and then do your best to please them. Show others you have wisdom.

SCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Listen to ideas of a long-friend and follow through for good benefits. Make as y new contacts as you can.

Computer access for the blind



Mr. Klaus-Peter Schoenherr, a Stuttgart engineer, has devised an adaptor that converts the computer printout on a terminal monitor screen into Braille. This is one of two prototypes at a training centre for the blind. One mini-computer can store more information than an entire library of conventional Braille books. The system is a welcome addition to training facilities and career opportunities for the blind and partially-sighted. (Dad photos)

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RELBY

NOPLY

RYVETS

KENRAT

They're growing so fast!

THEY OFTEN AGE MOST DURING THE TEENS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CROUP TESTY FALTER BAMBOO

Answer: Where you might go when you don't stick to your diet — "TO POT"

THE Daily Crossword

by Judson G. Trent

ACROSS

1 Heavy impact

5 Rough sketch

10 Woe — I

14 "Time and a wait"

15 Type of rocket

16 Rivers: Sp.

17 Work on copy

18 Figure of speech

20 Autobahn, in England

22 Mentally weak

23 Coward

24 "— was I ever..."

26 Twain's Tom

29 Hgt.

30 Collided

33 Columnist's tidbit

34 Figure of speech

35 — mode

37 Bengali is here

39 Soul: Fr.

40 Atmospheric hazards

42 — atque

43 The Twins

46 Quod

47 Homily abbr.

48 Ganymede's predecessor

49 Cautious wit

51 Mata —

52 Earth goddess

53 Gaucho weapons

55 Panic

60 Figure of speech

63 Line or cut

64 Wheat v.3

65 Prospero's sprite

66 "Gloria"

67 Pity's city

68 "Gloria"

69 Electric units

21 Fish dish

24 Strange

25 — can't

26 "— in a corner"

27 Adjective ending

28 Karl Marx's von —

29 Gita's nickname

30 Natives of New Zealand

31 English composer

32 Semite's

35 Poetic

38 Horrified

41 Figure of speech

42 Etymol.

43 Begun

45 Enter

46 Figure of speech

47 Lancers

48 Of warrens

51 Waste matter

52 Anesthetist

53 Empty

54 Musical work

55 Stripes

56 Point of land

57 Relief

58 Pupa

59 Cuckoo

61 Knave

62 — do not

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ALLAS DIDIC LITIAL
URSA TRIM LEATER
BEEFIS SEMANTICS
ASSISITRILES
WIAFS SITE AMOIR
SURETIVISTE GAD
UNALIA STIELE BURZIE
DUNIT NEGOTIATED
ETIA GAB NEAR
QUINCE ATIANIAN
MISIDFAVER SKARIE
ENTIDIS VEROS TILIN
ARIBIS ALIATA
TEERIS REEL RILLY

JORDAN BRIDGE

CHARLES R. GOREN
by Chicago Tribune

Neither vulnerable, as you hold:
♠AJ ♠952 ♠AQ1093
bidding has proceeded:
West North East
Pass 2 ♠ Pass

do you bid now?
The key to all accurate auction is to establish a fit as soon as possible. Despite the fact that you have a good five-card suit of spades and a solid opening bid, the most important feature of the hand is the excellent support for the suit in which partner has a jump shift. Any bid other than a raise to three would be a bridge crime.

Neither vulnerable, as you hold:
♠952 ♠A73 ♠K6 ♠6
is your opening bid?
This is a process of elimination. Any bid to arrive at the right one. An opening bid of four is preemptive, and your partner's far too strong for that. A demand bid of two promises much more in spades and playing tricks than a raise to three would deliver. Therefore, only acceptable opening bid is spade.

As South, vulnerable, old:
♠952 ♠83 ♠AK762
er opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
When you hold 8 balanced and partner opens one no trump, you would normally respond by bidding two no trump. After all, partner might be playing for his opening, however, your perfectly good is a liability. In addition you have no intermediate to give your hand "body," game prospects are quite even opposite a maximum would not extend the bid. Pass.

As South, vulnerable, old:
♠743 ♠AQ5 ♠8752
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Peanuts

NECKS HATE TO EXERCISE

IF NECKS WERE FEET, YOU'D NEVER GO ANYWHERE!

Andy Capp

WILL YOU BE OKAY IF I POP OUT FOR A QUICK GAME OF SNOOKER, PET?

COME ON, MATE, SHE'S ASLEEP

I DUNNO IF I OUGHT TO LEAVE THE PATIENT UNATTENDED CHALKIE

SHE'LL SURVIVE - IF SHE CAN SURVIVE YOUR MEALS SHE CAN SURVIVE ANYTHING

WATCH YOUR MOUTH, CHALKIE

Mutt 'n' Jeff

WHY DID YOU LET THAT GUY TALK YOU INTO BUYING THAT RIDICULOUS FUR COAT FOR \$30?

I FOOLED THAT WISE GUY! I DIDN'T PAY HIM NO \$30!

BUT I SAW YOU SIGN THE CHECK YOU GAVE HIM!

YEH, BUT HE WON'T BE ABLE TO CASH IT!

WHY NOT?

I DIDN'T FILL IN THE AMOUNT!

Flintstones

WHY DO YOU THINK THIS ROBBERY WAS THE WORK OF ORGANIZED CRIME?

I'VE SEEN CRIME BEFORE, PAL!

BUT, NEVER SO WELL ORGANIZED!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

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THE BETTER HALF

By Vito

"I don't worry too much about Stanley. He never has enough 'mad' money to go more than slightly daffy."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	CHANNEL 4
5:30 Kuran	6:30 French programme
5:45 Caravan	7:00 News in French
6:10 Rainbow	7:30 News in Hebrew
6:30 Barney Miller	7:40 Eva 2000
7:00 Local programme	8:30 Comedy
8:00 News in Arabic	9:10 Survival
8:30 Arabic programme	10:00 News in English
9:30 Arabic play	10:15 Movie of the Week
11:10 News in Arabic	"Colours" The Forth Project

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on	15:00 Concert Hour
7:01 Morning Show	16:00 News Summary
7:30 News Bulletin	16:05 Easy Listening
7:40 Morning Show	16:30 Old Favorites
10:00 News Summary	17:00 Talking Points
10:30 The World of Philip Markov	17:30 Radiotheque
11:00 Signing off	18:00 News Summary
12:00 Signing on and New Headlines	18:05 American Concerts
12:03 Radiotheque	18:30 Story Time
13:00 News Summary	18:45 Arabic Music
13:03 Radiotheque	19:00 News Bulletin
14:00 News Bulletin	19:10 News Reports
14:10 Music	19:30 Sign off
14:30 Country Music	

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:	DEPARTURES:
4:30 Bangkok, Abu Dhabi	5:40 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
7:50 Cairo (EA)	6:00 Damascus
7:55 Baghdad	7:30 Beirut
8:00 Ras Al Khaima, Bahrain	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
8:00 Muscat, Doha (RUGP)	8:55 Cairo (EA)
8:30 Damascus	10:00 Rome
8:30 Kuwait	10:30 Athens, Madrid
10:00 Beirut	11:00 New York, Amsterdam
10:30 Rawalpindi (BA)	11:55 London (BA)
11:05 Riyadh (SDI)	12:00 London
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)	12:05 Riyadh (SDI)
13:50 Cairo (EA)	12:30 Paris
17:00 Agaba	13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
18:15 Cairo	13:30 Cairo
18:15 Houston, New York, Vienna	14:45 Cairo (EA)
18:25 London	15:00 Agaba
18:45 Rome	18:30 Cairo
19:45 Beirut (MEA)	20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
20:50 Cairo (EA)	21:00 Jeddah
22:00 London, Damascus (BA)	21:30 Doha, Kuwait
00:45 Cairo	21:45 Cairo (EA)
03:00 Cairo	

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Al Salam (36730)
Amman:	Al Yarmouk
Wajih Barakat (387306683)	Al Magharyeh
Al Al Hawasini (23942)	Zagza
Zaid Jaradat (2001)	Al Adham
Zarqa:	Tasle
Farah Agabawhi (81923)	Venizia (44584)
Pharmacies:	Al Najah (23079)
Amman:	Al Najah (63273)
Albe Ghazaleh (25290)	Khalidom (62315)
Al Jamil (37291)	

BBC RADIO

GMT	13:30 Network U.K.
04:00 Newsworld	13:45 Pleasure's Yours
04:30 International Soccer Special	14:30 DJ Roundtable
04:45 Financial News: Reflections	15:00 Radio Newsworld
05:00 News: 24 Hours	15:15 Outlook
05:30 Classical Record Review	16:00 News: Commentary
05:45 World Today	16:15 The Trust of Wildlife Hall
06:00 Newsworld	16:45 World Today
06:30 The Melos Ensemble	17:00 News: Play Choice
07:00 News: 24 Hours	17:15 Discovery
07:30 Think of a Number	17:45 Sports Round-up
07:45 Network U.K.	18:00 News: News about Britain
08:00 News: Reflections	18:15 Radio Newsworld
09:00 News: Press Review	18:30 Brain of Britain 1980
09:30 Financial News	19:00 Outlook: News Summary
09:40 Look Ahead	19:30 Stock Market
09:45 Encounter with Animals	19:45 Classical Record Review
10:00 News: 24 Hours	20:00 News: 24 Hours
10:30 My Music	20:30 A Jolly Good Show
11:00 News: News about Britain	21:15 Under Newsletter
11:15 Think of a Number	21:20 In the Meantime
11:30 Business Matters	21:30 Business Matters
12:00 News: World Today	21:45 World Today
12:15 Top Twenty	22:25 Book Choice
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:30 Financial News: Reflections
13:00 News: 24 hours	22:45 Sports Round-up
	23:00 News: Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	19:00 News Roundup:
03:30 The Breakfast Show	report, opinion, analysis.
06:30 News, pop music, features, science, quiz.	19:30 VOA Magazine: American, science, culture, letters.
17:00 News Roundup: report, opinion, analysis.	20:00 Special English: news, 20:15 Music USA (live)
17:30 Dateline	21:00 VOA World Report
18:00 Special English: news, features, "The Making of a Nation"	22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analysis.
18:30 Now Music USA	

CULTURAL CENTRES (AMMAN)

American Centre...	61-2120
British Council...	2434-4
French Cultural Centre...	2434-4
Goethe Institute...	2434-4
Soviet Cultural Centre...	2434-4
Spanish Cultural Centre...	2434-4
Haya Arts Centre...	6749
Haus der Jugend...	6749
Y.W.C.A....	6749
Y.W.M.C.A....	6749
Amman Municipal Library...	6749
University of Jordan Library...	6749
Canada Museum...	6749
Folklore Museum...	6749

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (AMMAN)

Ambulance (government)...	61-2120
Civil defence (civilian)...	2434-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)...	2434-4
Municipal water service (emergency)...	2434-4
Police headquarters...	6749
Najdah rising patrol (near police) (English spoken) 24 hours a day (emergency)...	2434-4
Airport Information (AIA)...	6749
Jordan Television...	6749
Radio, English Section...	6749
Fire headquarters...	6749

CULTURAL CENTRES (DAMASCUS)

Al Hamra Theatre...	220-430
Al Shifa Art Gallery...	220-430
American Centre...	220-430
Arab Cultural Centre...	220-430
Bulgarian Cultural Centre...	220-430
British Cultural Centre...	220-430
French Cultural Centre...	220-430
German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre...	220-430
Russian Theatre...	220-430
National Museum...	220-430
Soviet Cultural Centre...	220-430
Spanish Cultural Centre...	220-430
West German Cultural Centre...	220-430

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (DAMASCUS)

Ambulance (government)...	61-2120
Chair of Commerce...	116-50
Electric Power Co. (emergency)...	2434-4
Fire headquarters...	2434-4
Information...	2434-4
Municipal water service...	115-500

OUT & ABOUT

HINESE RESTAURANT

and best Chinese restaurant in Jordan.

Circle, Jabal Amman, the Athiyah School or Tel. 38968.

nd daily from noon to 3:30 and 8:30 — 11:30 mid-it. Also take home ice-order by phone.

for advertising in above columns contact "SOUT WA SOUT" Tel. 38968

Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

U.S. 'intends to pursue matter' USSR rejects suggestion by U.S. of possible germ warfare ban violation

MOSCOW, March 19 (R) — The Soviet Foreign Ministry today described as "impudent slander" a United States suggestion that Moscow might have been violating an international treaty on biological warfare research.

A ministry spokesman told Reuters: "This is just the latest invention of American propaganda. There is no basis for such assertions."

The spokesman was commenting on an announcement by the U.S. State Department yesterday that Washington was studying reports alleging the Ural Mountains city of Sverdlovsk was exposed to germ warfare materials in an accident last spring.

Foreign scientific sources and diplomats in Moscow said they had heard nothing to support Western press claims of germ warfare accidents in the Soviet Union over the past year on which the State Department apparently based its announcement.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Moscow had signed the five-year-old convention banning use and production of biological warfare agents "and we strictly observe this treaty."

The American statement was made against a background of mounting U.S. efforts to win support for a boycott of this summer's Moscow Olympic Games in protest against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Recently, the U.S. has also said it was studying reports that Soviet troops in Afghanistan had been using chemical weapons against anti-government guerrillas. These reports have also been denounced in Moscow as lies.

The Western reports of alleged Soviet germ warfare accidents appeared last autumn in a British news magazine, which said the city of Novosibirsk had been affected, and earlier this year in a West German popular daily, which

mentioned Sverdlovsk.

Novosibirsk is frequently visited by foreigners and Western scientists, many of whom stay for lengthy periods at the Akademgorodok research centre just outside the city. Because of this, any major accident there would be difficult to keep secret.

Sverdlovsk, a city of just over a million people, is closed to foreigners apparently because of a concentration of defence industry plants there.

But Soviet dissidents with contacts in Sverdlovsk have said they have heard nothing of any such accident.

Soviet sources who read reports of yesterday's State Department announcement said they felt it was unlikely to be a coincidence that the British and West German reports had been reprinted yesterday in a U.S. Government publication.

Reprinting of the articles yesterday in the U.S. Foreign Broadcast Information Service, which monitors news published abroad, was unusual because they were several months old.

According to the reports, thousands of people died in the alleged accidents.

State Department spokesman David Passage said the United States was not yet charging that the agreement was violated but "intends to pursue this matter as vigorously as the facts warrant."

He said U.S. information about the Sverdlovsk incident had been compiled over an extended period by intelligence specialists and the United States only recently felt it had sufficient information to approach the Soviet Union about

its concern.

The United States, the Soviet Union and Britain are among more than 100 countries which have ratified or signed the East-West pact banning bacteriological and biological weapons.

The agreement was negotiated by the East-West Geneva Disarmament Conference and delegates earlier this month began a meeting to review its operation.

The pact binds signatory nations never to develop, produce or acquire bacteriological weapons and to destroy stocks or to divert them to peaceful purposes.

The Geneva Disarmament Conference is still trying to negotiate a convention banning the use of chemical weapons.

Colombia 'cannot agree' to demands by guerrillas

BOGOTA, March 19 (R) — The Colombian Government said it would not comply with demands of leftist guerrillas holding about 30 hostages in the Dominican Republic's embassy here.

Explaining the government's stance in a television broadcast to the nation, Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas said: "The executive cannot decree on its own the freedom of the persons detained." Prisoners in Colombia could only be freed by the "competent judges," he added.

"The government maintains that the president of the republic and his ministers have to act within the strict framework of the constitution and the law," Mr. Uribe Vargas said last night.

In his address, Mr. Uribe Vargas made no direct reference to an offer by Cuban President Fidel Castro that the guerrillas, their hostages and the freed prisoners be allowed to fly to Cuba.

Congressional committee pursues proposals for big cuts in U.S. spending

WASHINGTON, March 19 (R) — Congressional economic specialists today pushed ahead with proposals to put the U.S. national budget for 1981 into surplus without waiting for President Carter's list of cuts.

The House of Representatives Budget Committee called its first meeting since Mr. Carter announced his programme of spending cuts, oil import fees and credit restrictions to curb the 18 per cent annual rate of inflation.

Committee member and House Democratic leader Jim Wright said the majority party would propose \$ 21.9 billion in budget cuts and savings to produce a \$1.8 billion surplus for the 1981 financial year starting Oct. 1.

President Carter has withheld details of the plan he outlined last Friday to cut up to \$14 billion in federal expenditure to balance his revised budget.

Committee members said they would go ahead with their own programmes for cutting spending rather than delay action until they saw Mr. Carter's proposals, expected within two weeks.

The mood of austerity was reflected yesterday as major

banks again raised the cost to borrowing to most credit worthy customers, setting the rate at a record 19 per cent.

Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. central bank, said interest rates could only come down again when inflation and the economy improved.

He said the Reserve would continue its policy of slowing the flow of money and credit supplemented by selective credit controls worked out with the administration.

Mr. Volcker told the Senate Banking Committee he planned formal meetings soon with heads of foreign central banks to gain their cooperation in the programme of credit restraint.

The plan includes restrictions on U.S. banks making loans for speculation in the commodities and precious metals markets, as well as curbs on loans for business takeovers of other companies.

"The quicker we get through this period the better," Mr. Volcker said, urging Congress to help by passing a balanced 1981 budget.

Carter, Reagan win Illinois primaries

CHICAGO, March 19 (R) — President Carter has won the vital Illinois primary election by a landslide, dealing another blow to Senator Edward Kennedy's presidential hopes.

Conservative front-runner Ronald Reagan scored an equally crucial win in the Republican primary here last night.

The former governor of California defeated Illinois Congressman John Anderson and former U.N. ambassador George Bush, adding to a long string of victories and entrenching himself as the leading contender for the Republican nomination.

With about half the Democratic vote counted, President Carter led Senator Kennedy by 65 to 30 per cent. California Governor Jerry Brown had three per cent of the

vote.

At the halfway mark in the Republican count, Mr. Reagan had 40 per cent to Mr. Anderson's 36 and 11 for Mr. Bush.

Despite the clearcut results in Illinois, a pivotal primary state that embraces a wide spectrum of ethnic and interest groups, all the beaten contenders vowed to fight on against the odds.

A glum-looking Senator Kennedy, apparently damaged by his political alliance with controversial Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne, told demoralised supporters he would try to upset Mr. Carter in next week's New York primary.

Many political observers believe that may be the Massachusetts Democrat's last chance now that President Carter has won

seven out of eight primaries.

Among the Republican also-rans, liberal Congressman Anderson had captured public attention as a potential long-shot challenger to Mr. Reagan and was rated an even chance to win in his populous state where both men are native sons.

He chose to interpret his second place finish as a moral victory and pledged to fight all the way to July's presidential nominating convention.

"I have not yet begun to fight," he said, using revolutionary war hero John Paul Jones's famous phrase of defiance in a naval engagement against the British.

An exultant Mr. Reagan, who has won seven out of nine Republican primaries, said he was not quite ready to claim he had the Republican nomination wrapped up.

But he now holds a formidable lead, having turned back Mr. Anderson's challenge and reduced Mr. Bush to third place. He was front-runner after winning two early contests.

But if Illinois proved a major setback to those two Republicans, it was a shattering blow to Mr. Kennedy.

Surveys of voters leaving the polling places indicated the magnitude of his defeat in a state regarded as a major measure of political strength because of its size and the diversity of its population.

Surveys conducted by the CBS and ABC networks showed President Carter outpolled him among Catholics, trade unionists and minority racial groups. The liberal senator was presumed to have inherited the support of these groups from his brothers, John and Robert.

Beyond that, factors that would normally be political advantages seemed to work against Mr. Ken-

nedy here.

He had the backing of Mayor Byrne, nominal leader of the Chicago Irish-American political machine that helped John Kennedy win the 1960 Democratic nomination.

But Mrs. Byrne has become unpopular because of constant fights with trade unions and political rivals. The city of Chicago, her stronghold, voted two-to-one for President Carter.

Half the Democratic voters surveyed said they rated inflation as their main concern, but that did not lead to any repudiation of the president, or any aid to the senator.

The more telling factor, apparently, was that the majority in the ABC survey rated Mr. Carter the better man for honesty, morality and stability in a crisis, another indication that many people have not forgiven Senator Kennedy for the 1969 Chappaquiddick car accident in which his woman companion was killed.

These surveys reflected much the same opinion trends that have dogged the senator throughout this campaign and boded ill for his chances of reversing matters in New York.

One important outcome of the Illinois primary remained unclear early today: distribution of the state's huge nominating convention delegate contingents.

The announcement of that count was delayed, but some unofficial projections gave President Carter well over 100 of the 152 Democratic delegates.

Entering the Illinois contest, Mr. Carter's unofficial delegate tally was 304. Senator Kennedy was credited with 165, including many from his one primary win in his home state, Massachusetts.

It takes 1,666 delegates to win the Democratic nomination.

World News Briefs

MANILA, March 19 (R) — Muslim rebels today ambushed a logging company truck in the south-western Philippine province of Zamboanga del Sur, killing a security guard and wounding another man, military sources said. The attack took place a day after President Ferdinand Marcos called on the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to give up their eight-year-old secessionist revolt, urging them to accept a move to establish two semi-autonomous governments in the region where most of the minority Muslims live. More than 60 people have died and nearly 600 have been injured in attacks in the far south in just over a month.

MADRID, March 19 (R) — Basque guerrillas last night claimed responsibility for an a-bomb attack on a Spanish army general in which his military police bodyguard was killed. In a communique sent to news organisations in the northern port city of Bilbao, the Basque separatist guerrilla group ETA claimed responsibility for yesterday's attempted assassination of 62-year-old General Fernando Esquivas Franco, General Esquivas, a former aide of the late dictator Francisco Franco, suffered only slight injuries when a shrapnel bomb hidden in the saddlebags of a motorcycle exploded as he left his Madrid home. The general's aide also survived the attack but 19-year-old military policeman Jose Ramirez Villar was killed. The soldier was ETA's 19th victim this year in its fight for an independent, Marxist Basque state.

PARIS, March 19 (AP) — Fuel oil was dumped on the street outside President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's Elysee Palace office this morning in an apparent protest over the latest oil pollution of the north Brittany coast. Several garbage can loads of the heavy, sticky oil were spread by a group of men working from a truck registered in Brittany. Five were immediately arrested. The wreck of the Madagascar-flag tanker Tania off the coast earlier this month has coated some 96 kilometres of coastline with heavy oil. More than 1,300 troops are cleaning the shores by hand. The coast was the scene of the world's worst oil pollution accident two years ago when the Liberian-flag, American-owned supertanker Amoco Cadiz went aground, dumping 220,000 tons of oil.

BONN, West Germany, March 19 (AP) — A West German parliamentary delegation departs Saturday for a two-week fact-finding trip to Pakistan and India expected to include high level talks on the situation in Afghanistan. The delegation was to be led by Mr. Gerhard Schroeder, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Bundestag, or parliament. It will include several other committee members. According to a press statement, the group will meet with President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq while in Pakistan and visit a refugee camp for Afghans fleeing the Soviet invaders. The group also expects to confer with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and other senior government officials while in India. Their visit follows talks in Bonn this week between senior officials and Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao on the Afghanistan situation and other matters. During his visit, Mr. Rao said "recent events" had brought the cold war "to our doorstep," and he urged all peaceful efforts to remove his region from the arena of superpower confrontation. The West German visit is in line with the Bonn government strategy of forging closer links with India, Pakistan and other Third World nations as a means of responding to Soviet expansionism.

NEW DELHI, March 19 (R) — Opposition politicians protested here today over the mauling of about 25 blind people in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh yesterday. They were demonstrating over police action against a protest by the blind in New Delhi on Sunday in which about 100 people were injured. Premier Indira Gandhi expressed regret at the Delhi police action and a judicial inquiry has been ordered into the incident. According to a blind organisation in Chandigarh, police jostled the blind demonstrators and arrested them when they tried to march through the city yesterday.

NEW DELHI, March 19 (AP) — The United States has asked India for "some sort of assurance of forbearance" in developing atomic explosives before it will consider the resumption of U.S. nuclear fuel shipments, a U.S. embassy official said today. The official, quoting a speech delivered in Calcutta yesterday by U.S. Ambassador Robert G. Cohen, said discussions on the issue—which has strained Indo-American relations for two years—were continuing. However, an Indian Government spokesman said there have been no recent discussions on the fuel question. India has refused to accept full-scale safeguards permitting inspection of all atomic facilities, which a new U.S. law requires of countries importing U.S. fuel.

MILAN, Italy, March 19 (AP) — Italian newspaper today printed the names of 33,000 persons who are suspected of having evaded taxes in Italy between 1974 and 1975. The roster, compiled by Italy's central tax office, included oil businessmen, professionals and owners of small and medium size industries, but none of the top names of Italy's finance and industry. Some foreigners, most of them long-time residents in Italy, were also on the list. Those on the list may appeal the tax office's finding, pay the assessed taxes or face prosecution.

Carter steps up campaign to cut off exports of high technology to Moscow

WASHINGTON, March 19 (R) — President Carter has stepped up his campaign to cut off American high technology exports and know-how to Moscow in retaliation for Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Restrictions on the export of products such as computers were tightened yesterday in the latest in a series of economic measures taken since the Soviet incursion last December.

The Carter administration has already suspended sales of grain and some high technology goods and has cut back licences for importing Soviet fertilizer products.

"The principal intent is to cut off high technology and know-

how from the Soviet Union," a Commerce Department official told reporters in explaining the tighter controls.

He added that they would apply for the foreseeable future.

Administration officials said they would also look very closely at sales of similar products to all communist-bloc countries.

The new controls operate in the area of computers and computer programmes, advanced manufacturing techniques and materials critical to the manufacture of strategic goods.

Officials said the new measures would make it difficult for companies to obtain licences to sell the Soviet Union any products which have potential strategic value.

They said the United States had begun discussions with its allies, including Western Europe and Japan, to develop a common policy on controls over high technology exports.

In 1979, the United States exported goods worth \$3.4 billion, mostly agricultural products, to the Soviet Union.

Officials estimated that the new controls would affect about \$200 million in exports.

British proposal
In London yesterday, British Deputy Foreign Minister Sir Ian Gilmour said a total Soviet withdrawal remained the first condition of a lasting solution in Afghanistan.

A British proposal for making Afghanistan neutral and non-aligned had wide international support, he said.

"It offers, not a blueprint for a lasting solution, but a nucleus around which others can build in securing the complete Soviet withdrawal which we all seek as a first step," Sir Ian said.

The British proposal has been endorsed by the other eight European Common Market countries and has U.S. backing. It has been criticised in the Soviet press, but the Soviet Government has not publicly reacted.

Sir Ian said that because of the complexity of the Afghan situation, it was taking time for nations which condemned the Soviet action to agree on joint policies.

It was inevitable that there would be differences of national

perspective within the European Community and within the Atlantic alliance, he said. He added progress was being made.

Sir Ian said it was not good enough for Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to say that he welcomed the idea of finding a solution by political means.

"While he was saying that last week, 75,000 Soviet troops using extremely sophisticated military equipment, such as helicopter gunships, were being deployed to coerce the people of Afghanistan into accepting an imposed regime. There are now at least half a million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and great numbers in Iran too," the minister declared.

What was going on in Afghanistan was "extremely bloody" and no one could ignore it, he added.

Afghanistan: Priorities vs. realities

By Francois Durlaud

KABUL — The new Afghan authorities have announced their economic and social priorities, admitting with remarkable frankness that little can be achieved in the short term because of the extent to which life has been disrupted and property destroyed.

Hostility among the Muslim population towards Marxist government and the Soviet-backed administration headed by President Babrak Karmal, and continuing rebel activity in the provinces suggest that life there is unlikely to return to normal for some time, according to diplomats.

Nearly 90 per cent of Afghanistan's population of 15 million live in rural areas.

The Kabul New Times newspaper said the basic needs of the people were food, clothing, housing, education and health care in that order.

But the government-controlled daily newspaper printed a grim picture of the country as it prepares to celebrate the Afghan new year on Friday.

The New Times said in an editorial last week that destruction in many provinces was such that a long-term master plan was called for, involving enormous expenditure which would be a drain on the economy.

The newspaper spoke of damaged communication lines, schools burnt down, public property abandoned, roads and bridges in bad shape.

"Today, the economy in most of the provinces is in shambles," it said, blaming the policies of former president Hafizullah Amin, killed in the Dec. 27 coup that brought Mr. Karmal to power.

The situation is worse now because of increased anti-government activities following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, according to diplomatic sources.

But Afghan Government officials, presumably hopeful that attempts to crush the rebellion will be successful, have told foreign diplomats and experts that the overall situation will improve within a few months.

Landlocked Afghanistan is one of the world's poorest countries, with a per capita gross national product of \$230, and relies heavily on foreign aid.

The current five-year plan (1979-1984) called for investments totalling \$2.5 billion including \$1.5 billion in foreign aid, of which \$1 billion was promised by the Soviet Union.

But a large number of foreign-assisted projects have been stopped or suspended for security or political reasons.

Some Western countries which do not recognise the new Afghan Government have frozen cooperation programmes.

Insecurity in the provinces has forced U.N. agencies to slow down aid programmes. Informed sources said U.N. experts had returned to Kabul and their

number was being gradually reduced from about 140 to less than 100.

A visiting World Bank mission recently told the Afghan authorities that the bank's projects in Kabul could be continued, but not those in the provinces because no evaluation of progress was possible, according to diplomatic sources.

The World Bank was financing about 15 projects in Afghanistan, most of them outside Kabul, of which \$230 million had been earmarked, the sources said.

Also for security reasons, only half a dozen French teachers have so far volunteered to go back to the Lycee Esteghal in Kabul,

which reopens this weekend after the winter holidays. There were more than 20 French teachers last year.

West German volunteers for the Lycee Amanat, where German is taught, have yet to arrive in Kabul.

Education is among the government's priorities. Under the current five-year plan, the Afghan authorities aim at reducing the number of illiterates to 50 per cent of the population from about 80 per cent now.

But unconfirmed reports reaching Kabul from some parts of the country say that Muslim rebels are either burning down government schools or preventing children

from attending classes. But the most immediate problem in a country where agriculture accounts for half the gross national product is food production.

Afghanistan last year had to import at least 100,000 tons of wheat from the Soviet Union, according to Western estimates.

The government recently announced the import from the Soviet Union of 10,000 tonnes of fertilisers, 5,000 tonnes of improved wheat seeds, and 2,000 tonnes of cotton seeds, but it is doubtful whether they will reach all parts of the country in time.

Foreign experts do not anticipate any food crisis this year, but are pessimistic about the future.

REUTERS



An Afghan rebel leader poses with his men. Antigovernment activity continues to be a major "reality" in Afghanistan. (Gamma photo)